

CHID Amsterdam: Design, Aesthetics and Creativity in Amsterdam

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Program Terms: Summer Quarter

Dates / Deadlines:

There are currently no active application cycles for this program.

Fact Sheet:

Primary Language(s) of Instruction:	English	Foreign Language Required:	None
Courses available in English?:	Yes	Field of Interest:	Architecture, Design & Urban Planning, Art History, Environmental Studies, Humanities, Performing & Visual Arts, Social Sciences
Affiliated Department:	CHID	Program Type:	Faculty-led Program

Program Description:

CHID Amsterdam: Design, Aesthetics and Creativity in Amsterdam

Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands

Department: Comparative History of Ideas

Estimated Program Dates: June 24 – August 23, 2013

Estimated Program Fee: \$6,200

Credits: 15

Program Director: Stacey Moran (CHID); Adam Nocek (CHID)

UW Study Abroad Advisor: Katherine Kroeger kroegk@uw.edu

Application Deadline: EXTENDED: March 15, 2013

Information Session(s): TBD



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Netherlands is a country, literally, by design. Located below sea level on the stormy North Sea, the Dutch have defended themselves against threatening floods for centuries. Forced to work together since ancient times, towns across the Netherlands developed a tradition of collaborative engineering, carving out safe stretches of land by means of a complex system of dikes, canals, and windmill pumps. Engineering

technology and polder politics - the Netherlands' consensus-based politics - emerged simultaneously. For example, in the twentieth century, one of the largest construction efforts in human history, the Zuiderzee Works, effected a complete redefinition of the relations between humans, land, and sea. This massive redesign project not only replaced the South Sea with 580 square miles of fresh land, but also demanded the construction of new identities for the people living in the new province. In this instance, geography and politics are intimately entangled through a redesign project. But for the Dutch, most things connect to some sort of design mentality. A Dutch approach to design is never simply about form or function; what motivates Dutch designers is the constant demand for creativity in facing complex social, economic and cultural problems. Intimately engaged with its surroundings, the Dutch design sensibility tends to 'remix' existing elements to produce sustainable hybrids and craft a particular quality of life. In the last few decades, Dutch design has emerged as an internationally recognized force. Its influence and appeal stems from a unique combination of its experimental and innovative qualities, its numerous prestigious design academies (Eindhoven, Gerrit Reitveld Academy, Utrecht School of the Arts), and its strong governmental support for new designers. The Netherlands thus provides a unique landscape on which to explore innovation and creativity on multiple scales: geography, architecture, urban planning, furniture, fashion, food and agriculture, communication, products and typography.

Following the Dutch model, our study in Amsterdam engages with design at multiple levels. Working with local artists and designers, students will visit studios and museums; they will witness the contexts, materials, concepts, and applications of Dutch design. Students will attend local lectures and events at foAM, Reitveld, and LUSTlab and enter the contemporary discussions on design. Students will then use this design experience as a lens for thinking about other fields that incorporate design such as philosophy, literature, science, and technology. Reflecting on the role of humans as designers, students will be encouraged to locate themselves within a design mentality and to engage with design as knowledge. Finally, students will wrap up their immersive experience in Amsterdam by creating their own design projects. These projects will integrate multiple scales of experience and will be tied to specific designed spaces in and around the city of Amsterdam.

Amsterdam field trips include (not an exhaustive list): Rijksmuseum Museum Stedelijk Museum Droog Hotel and retail outlets FoAM – 'a cultural laboratory reimagining possible futures at the interstices of art, science, nature and everyday life' Amsterdam Fashion Week (July 2013) De Culinaire Werkplaats – design studio and restaurant, 'food and eating concepts at the intersections of food and art'

LOCATION:

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Housing:

Students will begin the program by rooming together in a Hostel in Amsterdam Centre. For one week, students will be able to easily walk, bike, bus, and tram around central Amsterdam, getting to know it and the university environs as they become accustomed to their new surroundings. Subsequently, students will move to University of Amsterdam student housing. These are not dorms, but small, lightly furnished apartments with a kitchen and bathroom shared by two people. Student rooms are not on campus, but are a short tram ride into Amsterdam Centre. Students will be provided with an OV Chipkaart, a transit pass for transportation between university and student housing.

ACADEMICS:

Pre-Requisites/Language Requirements:

This program is geared toward matriculated undergraduate students from any discipline. The ideal students for the program are those interested in art, the artist, creativity and design; architecture, urban planning and the built environment; ecology, environment and sustainability; and/or critical theory, philosophy and cultural critique. Ideal students would also be those who are interested in interdisciplinary education, and an immersive experience, and who are able to adapt to and appreciate the different norms of a foreign country. Participants will be able to receive I&S, NW or VLPA credit to meet their general requirements. In addition, CHID students can receive Gateways and 390 credit. Amsterdam is an old city, and as such, few older buildings provide universal access. Students might want to use the preferred mode of transportation in Amsterdam, a bicycle. There are no language requirements.

Credits:

Courses:

CHID 390: Colloquium in the History of Ideas (5 credits)

The CHID Junior Colloquium focuses on the theoretical and practical problems involved in knowledge production. This course will look at two competing narratives of knowledge in the west: detachment and attachment. On the one hand, we use a knowledge grounded in detachment, distance, and mastery. Detached knowledges produce objectivity in science, representations of culture, modernization and progress, and liberation. On the other hand, we use a knowledge grounded in attachment, dependency, and care. Attached knowledges produce human intimacy, personal and sensual experience, spiritual experience and meaningful connection to others. These two knowledge narratives tend to be at odds with one another, and yet we use them both constantly. Following the etymology of the word 'design,' which means 'to draw together,' this course seeks to draw these competing narratives together into new relations, that is, redesigned relations, through new encounters among humans, knowledges, and worlds.

CHID 471: Design Implications (5 credits)

Contemporary Dutch design can be stylish and eclectic, inventive and trans-historical, systematic and non-functional, provocative and conventional, conceptual and random, pragmatic and nonsensical, witty and stiff, anarchic and traditional. On the one hand, Dutch design rejects all norms of tradition; on the other hand, it embraces external influences and conventions. Fluctuating between rigid logic and total senselessness Dutch design has been described by designer Max Kisman, as having no particular style, but rather, being "a style of styles."

As a survey of Dutch Design today, this course will introduce students to a variety of applications and contemporary design practices. We will analyze the contexts of Dutch Design and uncover the unique approaches to the study of material culture specific to the Dutch designers. The goal is to gain insight in the creation and development of Dutch Design as a constructed concept, mediated by designers, institutions, technology and technological applications. Through exploration of design theory, a series of conceptual exercises and site visits to studios and cultural institutions, students will discover the unique canon of Dutch Design. Previous experience in design or art classes is NOT required.

CHID 480: Design Ecologies (5 credits)

What is the nature of design? Who is a designer? What are the objects of design? Who decides? These are simple questions with far from simple answers. In this course we explore how the concept of design is an amorphous range of histories, meanings, and uses that resists any easy classification in the Netherlands. We look at how design functions in fields as diverse as architecture and synthetic biology, food art/design and in-vitro meat production, sustainable agriculture and genetically modified foods. The students will use these rich contexts as frameworks for thinking about design not only as something that is irreducible to a set of questions and answers (e.g., what is the criteria for design?), but also as a powerful tool for negotiating the relations between information and communication, nature and artifice, cognition and lived experience, science and aesthetics, ethics and politics.

Students will read materials from fields as diverse as philosophy, design and communication theory, science and technology studies, art history, and science fiction. They will also have the opportunity to have on-site visits and lectures by scholars, artists, and practitioners of design in the Netherlands.

PROGRAM LEADERS:

Stacey Moran, CHID

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PROGRAM EXPENSES:

Cost:

Estimated Program Fee of \$6,200. This does not include the CHID Fee (\$300), the UW Study Abroad Fee (\$300), airfare, food (about \$40/day), Study Abroad Insurance (\$37/month), other health expenses/immunizations and personal spending money.

Average Airplane Ticket Price:

\$1,600* roundtrip

*Subject to when & where you buy your ticket.

Payment Schedule:

Program fees will be posted to your MyUW student account and can be paid the same way that you pay tuition and other fees. A \$350 non-refundable program deposit and the \$300 non-refundable UW Study Abroad Fee will be charged to your MyUW Account once your signed contract has been received by the Study Abroad Office.

Payment Type	Payment Amount	Payment Due Date
Non-Refundable Program Deposit	\$350	Charged Upon Receipt of Contract
CHID Fee	\$300	July 12, 2013
Non-Refundable UW Study Abroad Fee	\$300	July 12, 2013
Program Fee Balance	\$5,850	July 12, 2013
TOTAL FEES CHARGED	\$6,800	-

Orientation

To be eligible to study abroad, all contracted program participants must attend an in-person pre-departure orientation facilitated by the Study Abroad Office.

Once you have signed a contract, you must register for this general orientation through your online study abroad account in order to attend a scheduled session. Once you get to this stage in the process, you can visit the [Orientation Section](#) of our website to view the current orientation schedule.

Orientation must be completed prior to the Exploration Seminar enrollment deadline of July 1st.

In addition to the general orientation, you must also attend the program-specific orientations offered by your program directors. Those currently applying for a program need not sign up for the orientation session. However, be sure to look at the top of this page for info sessions for the programs to which you are applying.

Financial Aid and Scholarships:

Most forms of financial aid can be applied to study abroad. You can verify that your financial aid award will apply to your program costs by contacting the [Financial Aid Office](#). Financial aid or scholarships awarded as tuition waivers or tuition exemptions may not apply so you will need to verify that these funds are eligible for use with study abroad by contacting the funding office.

Financial aid and most scholarships will be disbursed according to the UW academic calendar (at the beginning of the quarter). If your program starts before the start of the UW quarter, your financial aid will not be available to you prior to your departure. If your program starts after the first day of the quarter, your financial aid will be disbursed at the start of the program. In either of these cases, you will have to finance any upfront costs such as airfare, health insurance and the start of your time abroad on your own. Please take this into consideration when you plan for your time abroad.

Revision Request:

In some instances you may qualify for an increase in your financial aid award (typically in loan funds). Check with the [Financial Aid Office](#) about your options. To request a revision in your aid, you will need to submit the following paperwork to the Financial Aid Office:

1. [Revision Request Form](#)
2. [Summer Application for Financial Aid](#)
3. Budget of student expenses for your program: The Study Abroad Office will upload this budget to your study abroad account after a signed contract has been submitted to the Study Abroad Office. You can request an unofficial copy of this budget by emailing ipe@uw.edu.

Visit the [Finances section](#) of our website to learn more about disbursement, revising your aid package,

short-term loans and scholarships.

Application Process

The application includes a Personal Statement, 3 short answer questions, 2 Faculty recommendations and electronic signature documents related to University policies and expectations for study abroad. Following the on-line application process students may be contacted by the Program Director for an in-person interview. Once an admission decision has been made regarding your application, you will be notified by the study abroad system via email.

Withdrawals

The \$350 program deposit and \$300 UW Study Abroad Fee are **non-refundable and non-revocable** once a contract has been submitted, even if you withdraw from the program. Students withdrawing from a program will be responsible for paying a percentage of the program fee depending on the date of withdrawal. More details about the withdrawal policy will be included in your payment contract. No part of the program fee is refundable once the program has begun. The date of withdrawal is considered the date (business day) a withdrawal form is received by the Study Abroad Office. Notice of withdrawal from the program must be made in writing, completing the following steps:

1. Provide notice in writing to the program director that you will no longer be participating in the program for which you have signed a contract and accepted a slot.
2. Submit a signed withdrawal form to the Study Abroad Office, 459 Schmitz Hall.

Visit the [Withdrawals section](#) of our website for more information.

Please see the CHID website for information on the CHID Fee withdrawal policy:

<https://depts.washington.edu/chid/fees-financing-and-withdrawal>